

NEW NORTHERN RECORDS OF THE HAIRY CICADA, *TETTIGARCTA CRINITA* (HOMOPTERA, TETTIGARCTIDAE)

By B. J. Thomas

726 Warringah Road, Forestville, 2087

On 27th February, 1972, a male Hairy Cicada, *Tettigarcta crinita*, was taken near the top of Mt. Ginini, at altitude 1696 m., the Brindabella Range, A.C.T. A female of this species is illustrated on the front cover of this journal. In addition 5 female and 5 male exuviae were found nearby. Eight of these were on the ground in an open patch of snow grass always within 1 metre of the emergence hole. The remaining 2 exuviae were found clinging to the grass.

The exuviae of a female was also found on a tree base a few inches from the ground near Mt. Gingera, at altitude 1752 m. There was no difficulty in finding the nymphal skins as their dark brown color contrasted with the surroundings. The coloration of the adult male, on the other hand, blended well with the tree on which it was resting. On further investigation of the area a decayed female was found in leaf litter. All the above specimens have been placed in the collection of Mr. Moulds.

On the night of February 27th, Mr. & Mrs. G. Daniels used U.V. light at the site for several hours and it was hoped that further adults would be attracted. This proved unsuccessful even though the light was taken through snow gum forest and the vegetation shaken in the hope of disturbing any specimens present.

The above records extend the known northern range of *Tettigarcta crinita* which was previously recorded only from as far north as the Snowy Mountains.

Two male nymphal exuviae of *Tettigarcta* have also been found at Mt. Wilson, Blue Mountains, N.S.W. on 3rd May, 1958 and 1st August, 1959 by Dr. D. K. McAlpine. These have been placed in the collection of the Australian Museum. Although Dr. McAlpine has subsequently searched for adults at Mt. Wilson on several occasions, he has so far been unsuccessful.

The sexes of the last instar nymph and nymphal exuviae of *Tettigarcta crinita* can be distinguished as shown in figures 1 & 2. Measurements taken of the abdominal width of the 5 male and 6 female exuviae gave a mean measurement for males of 10.5 mm. with a size range from 10.1-11.1 mm. while the mean for females was 12.9 mm. with a size range from 11.9-13.4 mm. Forewing length measurements taken from 8 male and 9 female adults collected in the Mt. Kosciusko area gave a mean length for males of 35.1 mm. with a size range from 34-36 mm. and for females a mean of 42.3 mm. with a range from 39-44 mm.

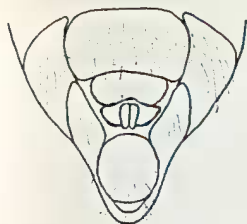


Fig. 1 ♂

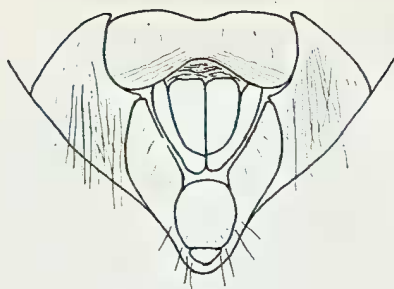


Fig. 2 ♀

Ventral view of terminal abdominal segments of last instar nymphal exuviae.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Dr D. K. McAlpine and Mr M. S. Moulds for their assistance in the preparation of this paper.

References

- Ashton, H., 1924. Notes on the "Hairy Cicada" (*Tettigarcta crinita*). *Pap. Proc. R. Soc. Vic.* (n.s.) 36: 238-239.
 Evans, J. W., 1941. The morphology of *Tettigarcta tomentosa* White, (Homoptera, Cicadidae). *Pap. Proc. R. Soc. Tasm.* 1940: 35-49.
 McKeown, K. C., 1951. Field notes on some insects of the Mt. Kosciusko area. *Aust. Zool.* 11(4): 333-337, pl. XLII.

A LIST OF DRAGONFLIES COLLECTED AT IRON RANGE, CAPE YORK PENINSULA FROM 10th-13th APRIL, 1971

By M. S. Moulds

14 Chisholm St., Greenwich, N.S.W. 2065

Iron Range is the name of the range of hills lying immediately to the east of the Claudie River and its tributaries located on the east coast of Cape York Peninsula at approximately 12° 45' S. The name is now applied to this part of the Claudie River district. The area contains tropical rain forest which is isolated from other areas of rain forest to the south and at the northern end of the peninsula. The dragonflies listed below were collected in the northern section of this rain forest along the road leading to Portland Roads between the Coen turnoff and the northern limit of the forest. Only incidental collecting of dragonflies was carried out, however, this not being the main purpose of the visit.

Suborder ZYGOPTERA

Superfamily COENAGRIONOIDEA

Family Coenagrionidae

1. *Aciagrion fragilis* (Tillyard) 1 ♂ 1 ♀
2. *Pseudagrion ignifier* Tillyard 2 ♂ 2 ♀
3. *Pseudagrion microcephalum* (Rambur) 2 ♂